

Remarks

Status of the Application

Claims 14-20 were pending in the application at the time the Office Action was mailed. By this amendment, claim 21 has been canceled. Amendment or cancellation of subject matter is not to be construed as surrender of any subject matter. Applicants hereby reserve the right to pursue the amended or canceled subject matter in one or more continuation or divisional applications. Accordingly, claims 14-19 are currently before the examiner for consideration. The Examiner has stated that claims 14-19 are allowed. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the application.

§112, ¶2 Rejections

The Examiner asserts that with respect to claim 21, “it is noted that the specification’s definition of the term states that the intended meaning of the term is a purified enzyme that can be isolated (isolatable) from *P. elisabethae*, has the ability to cyclize GGPP, and can have any level of structural similarity to the *P. elisabethae* enzyme disclosed in the specification.” Applicants respectfully traverse. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claim 21. Amendment or cancellation of subject matter is not to be construed as surrender of any subject matter. Applicants hereby reserve the right to pursue the amended or canceled subject matter in one or more continuation or divisional applications.

In view thereof, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the instant rejection.

§112, ¶1 Rejections

Claim 21 was rejected as failing to meet the written description and enablement requirements of §112, ¶1.

In response, Applicants have cancelled claim 21. Amendment or cancellation of

subject matter is not to be construed as surrender of any subject matter. Applicants hereby reserve the right to pursue the amended or canceled subject matter in one or more continuation or divisional applications. As such, the Examiner's rejection of claim 21 is now moot.

In view thereof, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the instant rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Peters et al. (Biochemistry 39:15592-15602, 2000).

Applicants respectfully traverse. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claim 21. Amendment or cancellation of subject matter is not to be construed as surrender of any subject matter. Applicants hereby reserve the right to pursue the amended or canceled subject matter in one or more continuation or divisional applications. As such, the Examiner's rejection of claim 21 is now moot.

In view thereof, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the instant rejection.

Conclusion

Although the applicants do not necessarily agree with or acquiesce in any rejections or objections set forth in the Office Action, the claims and/or specification have herewith been amended for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution.

The currently pending claims are supported throughout the specification and are patentable over the prior art. No new matter has been added. This application is now in full condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request allowance of the claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment or

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credit any overpayment of fees under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account 50-0951.

The examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any matter within this response, or if the examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,
AKERMAN SENTERFITT



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